GIL SMITH R SLOOP PAULINE Long Island Maritime Museum West Sayville Suffolk County New York HAER NY-340 NY-340

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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

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GIL SMITH R SLOOP "PAULINE"

HAER No. NY-340

Location: Long Island Maritime Museum, West Sayville, Suffolk County, New York

Date of Construction: 1938

Rig/Type of

Craft:

Centerboard Sloop

Trade: Sailing Yacht

Material: Wood

Length: 29 ft. 7-3/8 in. (overall) / 23ft. 6-1/2in. (waterline)

Beam: 7 ft. 6-1/2 in. Draft: 2 ft. 4 in. (centerboard up)

Propulsion: Sail

Builder: Gilbert M. (Gil) Smith

Present Owner: Long Island Maritime Museum

Present Use: Museum Artifact

Significance: Gil Smith of Patchogue, NY was one of the most prolific boat designers

and builders on Long Island, perhaps crafting more than four hundred small boats from 1876 to 1936. Primarily building shallow draft centerboard catboats, Gil Smith developed designs that were especially

well-suited to the Great South Bay. The boats were of light

construction, and had elegant shapes with "tumblehome" in the stern. *Pauline* is one of the finest sloops designed and built by Smith. For more information see the Masters Thesis by Daria Elizabeth Merwin, GILBERT M. SMITH, MASTER BOATBUILDER OF LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK, 2000. (Texas A&M Univ. Anthropology)

The information for this report was compiled by Todd A. Croteau in

Historian: 2009.

Materials:

The boat was built of wood using the following species:

Keel/Deadwood – long-leaf yellow pine

Frames – white oak

Sheer Plank/Clamps – old growth long-leaf yellow pine

Planking – Port Orford cedar

Ceiling Planks - cedar

Centerboard Trunk/Transom/Posts - black locust

Centerboard – long-leaf yellow pine

Decking – strip-laid Port Orford cedar bounded by covering boards of wild black cherry (King Planks were wild cherry)

Cockpit Framing – old growth long-leaf yellow pine

Interior Trim/Coaming – wild cherry

Spars – Douglas fir (hollow mast)



Pauline under sail with Mr. And Mrs. Bigelow and daughter.